

Questions

The sales tax licensee distribution reporting system is provided by the I.B.M. Service Bureau facility at a cost of approximately \$10,000 per year. This system has been in operation since 1968.

5. At the present time preparations are in progress by Customs and Excise for possible computer applications in the field of Customs operations and Excise Tax administration.

In so far as the Taxation Division is concerned: 1. Yes. The Taxation division has

the use of three computer systems. These are utilized 24 hours on scheduled work days and on weekends and statutory holidays as required.

2. The computer systems are programmed for use 24 hours per day except for those weekends and statutory holidays when the use of the systems is not required.

3. In a year, the time planned for utilization of each computer system is approximately 6,000 hours.

4.	1960-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Equipment Purchased	Not Available	150,110	—	—	1,422,000	621,345
Equipment Rented	Not Available	399,008	482,464	899,853	1,229,013	877,206

5. There are now 218 programs in preparation. Most of these are necessary to improve operations by enabling the department to handle the increasing workload without a proportionate increase in computer capability. Over 50 per cent of the new programs are in the statistical and management information fields and will not yield immediate gains but are necessary to provide the basis for future planning.

- 2. What was the initial cost of the equipment?
- 3. What yearly costs are anticipated for data processing in the Department?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Veterans Affairs): 1. Yes, 25 years.

2. None. Equipment is contracted for on an annual rental basis.

3. For the fiscal year 1970-71 the anticipated cost for data processing equipment is forecast at \$33,678.

REQUIREMENTS OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR WATER TREATMENT PROJECTS

Question No. 1,937—**Mr. Gilbert:**

1. With regard to the answer to Part 2 of Question Number 1,527 as reported in *Hansard* of May 20, 1970 at page 7106, what are the known requirements of municipalities in each province for 1970 regarding water treatment projects?

2. What were the previous commitments made in each province between the federal and provincial governments on water for financing the construction of water treatment projects?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): 1 and 2. The National Housing Act does not make provision for assisting in the financing of water treatment projects, and consequently Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation is not involved in such an operation, as was pointed out in the answer to Part 1 of Question No. 1,527.

DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Question No. 1,938—**Mr. Robinson:**

1. Does the Department of Veterans Affairs have data processing equipment (automatic) and, if so, for how long?

FUNDS FOR UPGRADING SANITATION AND SEWAGE FACILITIES

Question No. 1,942—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

Has the government any plans or programs available to provide the necessary funds for upgrading inadequate sanitation and sewage facilities of various municipalities across Canada?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio): In December, 1960, an amendment to the National Housing Act made provision for financial assistance to municipalities for the construction of sewage treatment facilities and trunk sewage collector systems. The assistance is in the form of loans, not exceeding two-thirds of the cost of the eligible works, for a term of not more than 50 years at favourable interest rates. As a further incentive, the borrower is forgiven repayment of 25 per cent of the principal amount of the loan, and of the interest on the loan accrued to the date of completion. One of the amendments to the National Housing Act, in June, 1969, extended the period for forgiveness to March 31, 1975. Loans approved,